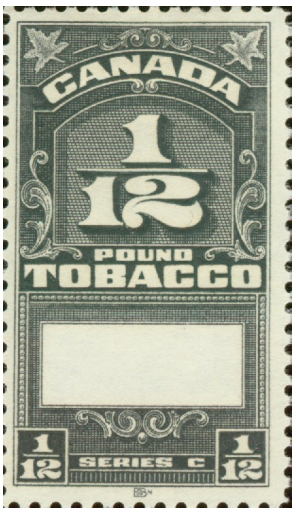
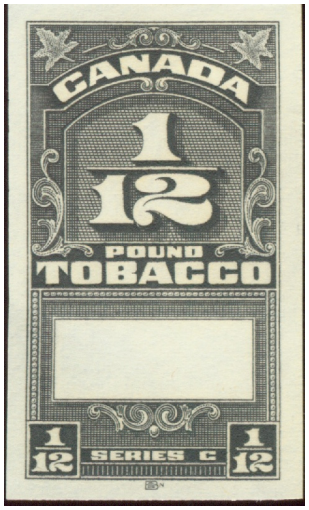
--- 1/12th Pound - Benson & Hedges (Canada) Ltd. ---

As indicated by its hidden letters (E-M) the 1/12th pound stamp was one of the original pouch tobacco stamps from 1935. In the early years tobacco was sold mainly for pipe and cigar use, and during the late 1920's Benson & Hedges (Canada) purchased the cigar assets of J. Hirsch and Sons, of Montreal. In 1954 Philip Morris merged with Benson & Hedges (New York). In July 1958 they also merged with Benson & Hedges (Canada) Limited, “8-10D”, in Montreal, and in 1961 they opened a multi-million dollar plant at Brampton, Ontario, “1-80E”.

In 1962 Benson & Hedges (Canada) Ltd., purchased Canadian Tabacofina, Montreal, “30-10D”, acquiring their plant, where for some years “*Belvedere*” cigarettes had been manufactured. Since their major entry into the cigarette field in 1961, the company’s brands include Parliament; Alpine; Benson & Hedges, 100 mm. in plain and in menthol; Henley; Belvedere; Mark Ten; and Belmont.



RN-14 - perforated 11



RN-16 - imperforate

The earliest listed cancellations from Benson & Hedges (Canada), “8-10D”, are from 1959, and to date show multiple typewritten impressions in from a stencil in different fonts and colours of ink using the letters from “A” to “L” to indicate the month, followed by a single number for the year. In 1947 the requirement to print the *excise tax* on the stamp was rescinded, although all the taxes were unchanged.

RN-14 - 1/12th pound, perf 11, coded A 0 / 8 - 10D by “Benson & Hedges”, Montreal, in January 1960

[RN-14]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1960	A 0	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	L 0
1961	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

By 1962 the cancellation had changed to a mimeographed K-2 / 8-10-D in ***red ink*** for Quebec, and in ***black ink*** for Canada wide sales.

RN-14 - 1/12th pound, perf 11, coded K-2 / 8-10-D by "Benson & Hedges", Montreal, in November 1962

[RN-14]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	K - 2	---
1963	AA - 3	---	---	---	E - 3	---	---	---	I - 3	---	---	---
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1963	---	---	---	---	E - 3	---	---	---	---	---	---	L - 3

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